

NEW YORK METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*Thomas Golder, Chairman
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October 29, 2009

Chief James Arden Barnett, Jr.
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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POLICE

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SUFFOLK CO.
POLICE

WESTCHESTER CO.
OEM

Re: Channel 16 (482-488 MHz)
New York Metropolitan Area
ET Docket No. 03-158
MB Docket No. 03-159

Dear Chief Barnett:

On behalf of the New York Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee (NYMAC) and its member public safety and emergency service agencies, this letter addresses the investment and efforts to deploy land mobile communications on channel 16 in the New York Metropolitan area. Particular emphasis has been committed to promoting interoperability among agencies and procedures we think will provide optimal use of this critical resource.

In April 2004, the Commission amended its rules and reallocated on a permanent basis television channel 16 (482-488 MHz) in the New York Metropolitan Area to land mobile public safety service communications. This critical decision contributes meaningfully to improved public safety communications and expanded interoperability among public safety agencies. It is a tangible demonstration of how important the Commission's work is.

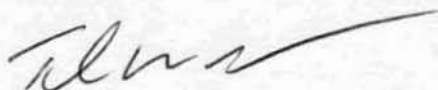
NYMAC has continued its role to manage and coordinate use of channel 16. Notably, since the Commission's decision, the number of agencies participating in NYMAC has expanded. An integral element of channel 16's further build out and deployment has been establishing channels to promote pervasive communications among the region's agencies. Specific channels, set forth on the attachment, have now been designated for mutual aid purposes. NYMAC and its member agencies monitor these channels to ensure their availability for mutual aid communications. A database has been created within the National Public Safety Telecommunications (NPSTC) NIIX DB System to delineate channel assignments and use.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Commission of the further improvements that have evolved from the designation of channel 16 for public safety and to seek its assistance in recognizing the channel assignment protocol. This is particularly true with regard to recognizing and preserving the important functions of the mutual aid channels. To the extent possible, we ask the Commission to assist in informing other land mobile and broadcast licensees, as well as frequency coordinators, of the efforts committed to channel 16. Representatives of NYMAC are available to share with the Commission staff further details of channel 16, particularly with regard to the mutual aid channels. We will also work with any private interest to ensure that the varied services using the spectrum coexist.

Please call upon me if you have any questions. My phone number is 516.573.7180; my email is TGolder@pdcn.org.

NYMAC and its member agencies appreciate very much the Commission's continued commitment to public safety communications.

Respectfully,



Thomas Golder
Chairman, New York Metropolitan Advisory Committee
Lieutenant, Nassau County Police Department
Nassau County, New York

Copy to:

Mr. Jeff Cohen, Senior Legal Advisor, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau

Mr. Tracy Simmons, Chief, Licensing Branch, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau